GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

Jesus Gives His Life in Love

Luke 23:26-49



YOUR BIBLE READING

Jesus faced death with mercy, trust, and saving love.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Mercy on a Sad Day

Luke 23:26-49



Jesus was led away to be put to death. Along the way, the soldiers took Simon, a man from Cyrene who was coming from the country, and made him carry the cross behind Jesus. A large crowd followed, including women who mourned for him. Jesus spoke to the women about sorrow that would also come upon their city. Luke does not hide the sadness surrounding this journey.

Two criminals were taken with Jesus. At the place called the Skull, the Roman soldiers crucified him, placing him on a cross to die, with a criminal on either side. We can name this clearly without describing injuries. Jesus was suffering a real execution. In the midst of it, he prayed that his Father would forgive those who were harming him, because they did not understand what they were doing.

The people stood watching. Some rulers mocked Jesus, saying that if he was God's chosen Messiah he should save himself. Soldiers mocked him too, calling on the king of the Jews to save himself. A sign above him named him as the king of the Jews. The words of kingship were being used in a scene of cruelty, yet Jesus continued to show mercy rather than answer with a threat.

One of the criminals also insulted him. The other challenged that response. He acknowledged that they themselves had done wrong but said that Jesus had done nothing wrong. Then he turned toward Jesus with a request to be remembered when Jesus came into his kingdom. This man beside him was asking for hope at a moment when both men were facing death. Jesus answered him with a promise of welcome.

Remember: Jesus' mercy reached others even in his suffering.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

A Promise, a Prayer, and a Real Death

Luke 23:26-49



Jesus promised the man that he would be with him in paradise that day. The request to be remembered received a personal answer. Jesus did not require a list of achievements from him before speaking this word of hope. Even while suffering, he gave attention to the person beside him. The promise shows mercy reaching another life in the middle of a scene marked by rejection and pain.

Darkness came over the land from about noon until the middle of the afternoon. The curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out to his Father, entrusting his spirit into the Father's hands. Then he died. These are plain words for what happened. His death was not ordinary sleep, a temporary faint, or only something his friends imagined when they saw him on the cross.

The Roman officer who saw what happened praised God and recognized Jesus as righteous. People who had gathered to watch returned home expressing sorrow. Jesus' acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance and watched. Luke names these different responses rather than making everyone in the crowd alike. Jesus and his earliest followers were Jewish; this account is never a reason to blame Jewish people collectively.

This is a solemn part of the story of God's saving love. The previous supper had named Jesus' life as given for others, and here that gift reaches death. Yet the cross is not the end of the account. The next story tells of the empty tomb and the good news that Jesus rose. Reading the two together lets the sadness remain real while also making room for the hope that follows.

Pause and think: What do you notice about Jesus' care for others during this difficult part of the story?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Read with Care and with Hope



This story may make you sad or bring questions. You can pause, speak with the adult reading beside you, and use clear words about what happened. It is enough to understand that Jesus was put to death and continued showing mercy. You do not need frightening pictures or details of injuries to understand that his love was faithful in suffering.

The man beside Jesus asked to be remembered and received a promise. His place in the story helps us notice mercy for a person who could not present an impressive record. At the same time, showing mercy never means calling cruelty good. We can name what was wrong and still notice the compassion Jesus showed toward others in that difficult scene.

Jesus' saving sacrifice does not tell a child to accept abuse or make you personally responsible for his death. If someone harms or threatens you, tell a trusted adult and seek safety. Then continue to the resurrection story with your reader. The Christian hope joined to the cross is that the Jesus who truly died was raised to life.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

Jesus truly died while showing mercy and entrusting himself to the Father, and his saving story continued.

What do you notice about Jesus' care for others during this difficult part of the story?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What did Jesus offer the man who asked to be remembered?

2. Did Jesus truly die?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ Jesus entrusts himself to the Father and dies.
- ☐ On the cross, Jesus shows mercy and offers hope.
- ☐ Jesus is led away, and Simon carries the cross.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw a distant cross and a sky changing from light to dark, without showing injuries.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

Jesus' mercy reached others even in his suffering.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: Luke 23:34,43,46

A thoughtful conversation

Read with an adult, use plain words for death, and connect immediately with story 93. Do not blame Jewish people collectively; Jesus and his first followers were Jewish. His sacrifice never means a child should accept abuse or feel responsible for his death.

Activity answers

1. A promise that he would be with Jesus in paradise.
2. Yes. His friends watched, but the story would continue with his resurrection.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 2, 1. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

Jesus, thank you for your saving love. Comfort us when this story feels sad. Amen.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

English retellings, lessons, reflections and activities by DigiPick (2026), based on Luke 23:26-49. Source checked with the public-domain World English Bible. Illustration © Sweet Publishing; 42_Lk_23_16_RG.jpg. CC BY-SA 3.0. Source: unfoldingWord. Resized proportionally, without cropping.
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